



LEADIT #13  
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HB 476

## Montanan State Volunteer Firefighters Association

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The Retirement started in 1965 by the legislature

The fund had to reach over a million dollars before anyone could draw the pension

The first check for \$100.00 was issued in 1975 to those that met the requirement age and years. For every two years they were given one year credit. The first retirees put in 30 years to collect 20 years. The first ten years the pension was up and down with the amount the retiree received. It went down to \$50.00 a month because the fund could never go below the one million.

The 2005 Legislation removed the 20 year cap to a 30 year cap. For each year over the 20 years a retiree would receive an additional \$7.50 a year up to the max of \$225.00 a month.

The 2011 Legislation removed the 30 year cap and an additional \$7.50 for any years over the 30 years will be paid.

Firefighters who retired with the 20 year cap but had more then the 20 good year has been grandfathered it to receive the extra \$7.50 for the years served up to the 30 years.

Firefighters who retired with 30 years but had more time will remain at the \$225 a month.

We are asking for a 2% cost of living on this pension. The most that it would be is \$54.00 a year for the firefighters with 30 years and less for those under 30 years.

We are the only state pension that does not have a COLA plan

